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**House of Representatives**  
State of Iowa  
*Seventy-Ninth General Assembly*  
STATEHOUSE  
Lea Annex, Iowa 50319

COMMITTEES  
Appropriations  
Economic Development  
Labor & Industrial Relations

APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE  
Justice Systems, *Chair*

To: Betsy Dittmore, Department of Public Safety  
From: Representative Lance Horbach  
Date: January 17, 2001  
Re: Capitol Police merger with the Iowa State Patrol

Betsy:

I have noticed that the Capitol Police are now wearing the uniform of the Iowa State Patrol. I have concerns regarding the elimination of the Capitol Police Division prior to Legislative approval. Please respond to the following questions during your presentation to the Justice Appropriations Subcommittee on January 23, 2001.

**Questions**

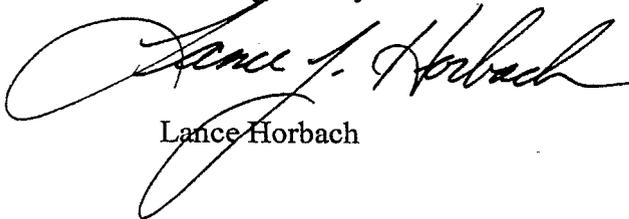
- How will this affect cost or reversion and morale?
- Who authorized this conversion and what was the reason?
- Do you think that the Department of Public Safety is in compliance with the Code?
- Why are there no Code changes proposed for Chapter 80?
- What are the job duties of the four officers who were not eligible to be converted to Trooper status due to age? What are the job duties of the officer who is not going through the DPS academy? Does this place the Iowa State Patrol in jeopardy?
- In the process of this conversion, are there any job duties being performed that are presently being neglected?

- Presently, the “former” Capitol Police are wearing State Trooper uniforms and Capitol Security badges. What is the reason for this? Are they going to switch over to State Trooper badges and if so, when?
- The Department is converting 22 FTEs... not 27 and there are five new hires. What are the ages of the new hires? The five academy graduates will replace the five who were promoted to other areas. (Two went to the State Patrol, one went to the Fire Marshal, one retired, and one is on medical leave) Why were two promoted to the State Patrol when there was a conversion taking place?
- With this move, how is the Department of Public Safety organized? (Where did the former supervisor of the Capitol Police division go?)
- What is the cost of this move?
- Are the Capitol Police receiving any new cars? If so, will patrol be shorted?
- Other questions, concerns?

The following are some proposed options to discuss regarding this merger.

1. The Department will commence operating according to the Code of Iowa as presently stated.
2. The Department of Public Safety will propose a Bill requesting Code changes that will allow the Department to be in compliance with the Code.
3. The Subcommittee may want to look at implementing a Board to oversee what the Department of Public Safety does.

Thank you for your time.



Lance Horbach